

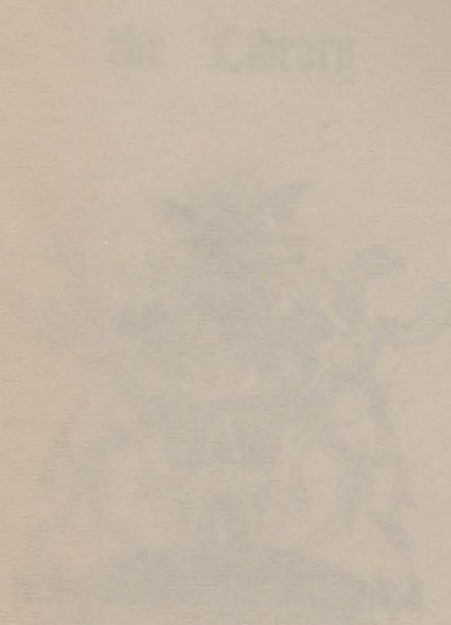
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# JOURNAL

WRITTEN BY

EDWARD BAKER LITTLEHALES

(MAJOR OF BRIGADE, ETC.)

OF AN

EXPLORATORY TOUR PARTLY IN SLEIGHS BUT CHIEFLY ON FOOT, FROM NAVY HALL,  
NIAGARA, TO DETROIT, MADE IN THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH,  
A.D. 1793, BY HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUT.-GOV. SIMCOE

WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

HENRY SCADDING, D.D.

AUTHOR OF "TORONTO OF OLD," "THE FOUR DECADES OF YORK, UPPER CANADA," (IN  
THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL VOLUME OF TORONTO,) ETC.

TORONTO:

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1889.





## INTRODUCTION.

The author of the Journal, here presented to the student of early Canadian History, was Major E. B. Littlehales, Secretary to Lieut.-Gov. Simcoe, the founder and organizer of the Province of Upper Canada, now the Province of Ontario.

Major Littlehales was afterwards Sir E. B. Littlehales, for some time Secretary at War for Ireland, during the Lord-Lieutenancy of the Marquis of Cornwallis. In August, 1805, he was married at Loftus Hill, near Dublin, to Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald daughter of the Duke of Leinster. In 1792, he is spoken of in the Simcoe papers at Ottawa as Capt. Littlehales, but in the following year as "E. B. Littlehales, Major of Brigade," as appears by his signature attached to a General Order, issued at York, Upper Canada, as follows :

"GENERAL ORDER.—YORK, U. C., 26th August, 1793.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, having received information of the success of His Majesty's arms, under His Royal Highness the Duke of York, by which Holland has been saved from the invasion of the French armies, and, it appearing that the combined forces have been successful in dislodging their enemies from an entrenched camp, supposed to be impregnable, from which the most important consequences may be expected, and in which arduous attempt His Royal Highness the Duke of York and His Majesty's troops supported the national glory. It is His Excellency's orders that on the rising of the Union Flag at 12 o'clock to-morrow (Aug. 27th, 1793), a Royal Salute of twenty-one guns is to be fired, to be answered by the shipping in the Harbour, in respect to His Royal Highness and in commemoration of the naming this Harbour from his English title, York.—E. B. LITTLEHALES, *Major of Brigade*."

In his "Travels in N. America" (vol. I., p. 271), the French Duke de Liancourt speaks in high terms of Major Littlehales, with whom he was brought into pleasant relations at Navy Hall, Niagara, in 1794.

"Before I close the article of Niagara I must make particular mention of the civility shewn us by Major Littlehales, adjutant and first secretary to the Governor, a well-bred, mild and amiable man, who has the charge of the whole correspondence of Government, and



acquits himself with peculiar ability and application. Major Littlehales appeared to possess the confidence of the country. This is not unfrequently the case with men in place and power ; but his worth, politeness, prudence and judgment give this officer peculiar claims to the confidence and respect which he universally enjoys."

Among the manuscript documents of Surveyor General D. W. Smith, lately secured for the Public Library of Toronto, there may be seen many letters in the hand-writing of Major Littlehales. The following is of considerable interest, as relating to an intended grant of land in Upper Canada for the accommodation of French Royalist refugees.

YORK, 27th October, 1793.—The undermentioned extract of a letter from His Excellency Lieut.-Governor Simcoe to Messrs. Desjardins and La Corne, French Missionaries, I have the honour to transmit to you agreeably to His Excellency's instructions, and I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant, E. B. LITTLEHALES.

D. W. SMITH, Esq., Acting Surveyor-General.—"The Executive Council of this country have agreed with me to reserve for the French emigrants a township in the vicinity of Burlington Bay ; this station I selected, as considering those townships united the most desirable requisites for a general settlement of any part of the Province, which was personally known to me, for such French gentlemen as might be likely to emigrate in a body."

It may be added that the site of this proposed settlement of French Royalist Refugees was ultimately on the Oak Ridges, north of York, and not on Burlington Bay.

The following letter, addressed to the Surveyor General touching as it does on the value of a hundred-acre lot at York in 1801, is of interest.

DUBLIN CASTLE, June 26, 1801.—Your letter of the 23rd of January, 1801, has but just reached me, and in reply to its contents I have to thank you for the trouble that you have taken to procure for me the proper warrant for the hundred acre lot, which was granted to me at York Town by the Governor-in-Council in Upper Canada, and I feel much indebted to your kindness in having sold it to Mr. Justice Alcock for \$900. I enclose a petition to the Lieutenant-Governor for the deed to issue to Mr. Alcock conformably to your suggestion, and I will send you a full power of attorney, regularly executed and bearing date the 14th of April, 1800 ; if, however, Mr. Alcock will pay me on the receipt of this letter and on your communicating the substance of it to him, 800 dollars instead of 900 on the 1st of January, 1801, it will be more convenient and satisfactory to me. I shall have very particular pleasure in attending to your wishes, but I must observe that since my noble friend, Lord Corn-




wallis, has resigned the Government, as well as for other cogent reasons which I cannot commit to paper, the prospect of my complying with them is very remote ; my best endeavours however, shall not be wanting to serve you in the manner that you have intimated. I request that you will give my best regards to your mother, and that you will believe me to be always, most sincerely yours, E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Sir E. B. Littledales died a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, March 4, 1825.

The journal before us was first printed in the columns of the *Canadian Literary Magazine*, a short lived periodical published at York in 1833, by Mr. John Kent.

The document was supplied to the editor by the present writer, having been found by him among his father's papers, and if not the original was a contemporary copy.

This chance publication was probably the happy means of rescuing the document from total oblivion. A danger arising of its being again lost sight of from the scarcity of the above named periodical, it has been thought advisable to re-issue it in independent form.

 It is desired also hereby to promote the project of erecting a statue to the memory of Lieut.-Governor Simcoe, in front of the new Parliament Buildings at Toronto, as suggested in an address delivered by the writer at Brantford, in June, 1888, the substance of which will be found in an Appendix.



## JOURNAL.

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1793. Feb. 4th.—On Monday His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, accompanied by Captain Fitzgerald, Lieutenant Smith of the 5th Regiment, Lieutenants Talbot, Gray, Givens, and Major Littlehales left Navy Hall in sleighs, and proceeded through the concessions parallel with Lake Ontario, to the Twelve-mile Creek. The roads being very indifferent and wet, owing to the unusual mildness of the season, we were obliged to stop there a short time, and reached the Twenty-mile Creek in the evening. We slept that night at one of Colonel Butler's houses.

5th.—Upon arriving at the Ten-mile Creek, an Express arrived from Kingston, brought by two Mississauga Indians. This circumstance detained the Governor till the next day,—

6th.—When, with some difficulty, we reached Nelles' at the Grand River (or Ouse) being obliged to cross the mountain, which bore the sad relics of devastation, occasioned by a hurricane the preceding Autumn.

7th.—About twelve o'clock we arrived at Captain Brant's at the Mohawk Indian Village—going along the ice on the Grand River with great rapidity, for a considerable way. The country between this place and Niagara, a distance computed about seventy miles, previous to ascending the mountain (considered as a branch of the Alleghany), is in a tolerable state of improvement,—the mountain is well timbered, and richly dressed with Pine, Oak, Beech, Maple, etc. The torrents of rain issuing from its summit, and the several creeks which run into Lake Ontario, break the ground, making deep ravines, and thereby much diversify the scene. The mountain runs parallel with Lake Ontario.

On our arrival at the Mohawk Village the Indians hoisted their flags and trophies of war, and fired a *feu de joie* in compliment to His Excellency, the Representative of the King, their Father.

This place is peculiarly striking when seen from the high land above it; extensive meadows are spread around it, and the Grand River rolls near it, with a termination of forest. Here is a well built wooden Church, with a steeple; a school and an excellent house of Captain Brant's.—The source of the Grand River is not accurately ascertained, but it is supposed to be adjoining the waters which communicate with Lake Huron. It empties itself into Lake Erie; and, for fifty or sixty miles, is as broad as the Thames at Richmond, in England. Some



Villages of the Onondaga, Delaware, and Cayuga Indians are dispersed on its banks. While we were at the Mohawk Village we heard divine service performed in the Church by an Indian. The devout behaviour of the women (Squaws), the melody of their voices, and the exact time they kept in singing their hymns is worthy of observation.

10th.—We did not quit the Mohawk Village till noon, when we set out with Captain Brant, and about twelve Indians—came to an encampment of Mississagas, and slept at a trader's house.

11th.—Passed over some fine open plains said to be frequented by immense herds of deer; but, as very little snow had fallen this winter, we did not see them.

We crossed two or three rivulets through a thick wood, and over a Salt Lick, and stopped at four o'clock to give the Indians time to make a small wigwam. The dexterity and alacrity of these people, habituated to the hardships incidental to the woods, is remarkable.—Small parties will, with the utmost facility, cut down large trees with their tomahawks, bark them, and in a few minutes construct a most comfortable hut, capable of resisting any inclemency of weather, covering it with the bark of the Elm. During this day's march we saw the remains of several Beaver dams.

12th.—We travelled through an irregular woody country and passed an encampment said to have been Lord Edward Fitzgerald's when on his march to Detroit, Michilimackinac, and the Mississippi. We passed a fine cedar grove, and about one o'clock crossed, on the trunk of a tree, a small branch of the La Tranche (Thames), and soon afterwards crossed the main branch of that River in the same manner.

We met a man almost starved, who was overjoyed to obtain a temporary relief of biscuit and pork,—he was going to Niagara. From the conductor of the annual Winter-express from Detroit, whom we afterwards met, we learnt that the above man had been guilty of theft. We halted in an open part of the wood and huddled as we did last night—we were much fatigued, and refreshed ourselves with soup and dried venison.

13th.—Early this morning the express from Detroit with Mr. Clarke, a Wyandot, and a Chippawa Indian, parted from us on their way to Niagara. We went between an irregular fence of stakes made by the Indians to intimidate and impede the Deer, and facilitate their hunting. After crossing the main branch of the Thames, we halted, to observe a beautiful situation, formed by a bend of the River—a grove of Hemlock and Pine, and a large Creek. We passed some deep ravines, and made our wigwam by a stream on the brow of a hill, near a spot where Indians were interred. The burying ground was of earth raised, nearly covered with leaves; and wickered over—adjoining it was a large pole, with painted hieroglyphics on it denoting the nation, tribes, and achievements of the deceased, either as Chiefs, Warriors, or Hunters.

This day a Racoon was discovered in a very large Elm tree, upon which the Indians gave a most tremendous shout,—all set to work with their tomahawks and axes, and in ten or fifteen minutes the tree was cut down. The way of entrapping the animal was curious. Judging correctly of the space the tree would occupy in falling, they surrounded it, and closed in so suddenly that the Racoon could not escape, and was killed. The Indians at first amused themselves with allowing a Newfoundland dog to attack it, but it defended itself so well that, I think, it would have escaped from the dog, but for the interposition of the Indians. Several more Racoons were traced in the snow, and two of them taken by the same mode. The three when roasted made us an excellent supper. Some parts were rancid, but in general the flesh was exceedingly tender and good.

14th.—This day brought us within a few miles of the Delaware Indian Village, where we encamped. The Indians shot some black and other squirrels. I observed many trees blazed, and various figures of Indians (returning from battle with scalps), and animals drawn upon them, descriptive of the nations, tribes, and number that had passed. Many of them were well drawn, especially a Bison. This day we walked over very uneven ground, and passed two Lakes of about four miles in circumference, between which were many fine Larch trees. An Indian, who carried a heavier pack than the rest, was behind, and on over-taking us, said that a white man was coming with despatches to the Governor. This person proved to be a traveler, who, as we afterwards heard, made use of that plea to get supplied with provisions and horses to the Grand River, and from thence with an Indian guide to Detroit.—He quitted us under the plausible pretence of looking for land to establish a settlement.

15th.—We breakfasted at the Delaware Indian Village, having walked on the ice of the La Tranche (Thames) for five or six miles; here we were cordially received by the Chiefs of that nation, and regaled with eggs and venison. Captain Brant being obliged to return to a Council of the Six Nations, we stayed the whole day. The Delaware Castle is pleasantly situated upon the banks of the Thames; the meadows at the bottom are cleared to some extent, and in Summer planted with Indian Corn. After walking twelve or fourteen miles this day, part of the way through plains of white Oak and Ash, and passing several Chippawa Indians upon their hunting parties, and in their encampments, we arrived at a Canadian Trader's; and, a little beyond, in proceeding down the River the Indians discovered a spring of an oily nature, which upon examination proved to be a kind of petroleum. We passed another wigwam of Chippawas, making maple sugar, the mildness of the Winter having compelled them in a great measure to abandon their annual hunting. We soon arrived at an old hut where we passed the night.

17th.—We passed the Moravian Village this day. This infantine



settlement is under the superintendence of four Missionaries, Messrs. Zeisberger, Senseman, Edwards and Young; and principally inhabited by Delaware Indians, who seem to be under the control, and, in many particulars, under the command of these persons. They are in a progressive state of civilization, being instructed in different branches of Agriculture, and having already corn fields. At this place every respect was paid to the Governor, and we procured a seasonable refreshment of eggs, milk and butter.—Pursuing our journey eight or nine miles, we stopped for the night at the extremity of a new road, cut by the Indians, and close to a Creek. Mr. Gray missed his watch, and being certain he left it at our last encampment, two of the Indians who observed his anxiety about it, proposed and insisted on returning for it; they accordingly set out, and returned with it the next morning, although the distance there and back must have been twenty-six miles.

18th.—Crossing the Thames, and leaving behind us a new log house, belonging to a sailor, named Carpenter, we passed a thick, swampy wood of black walnut, where His Excellency's servant was lost for three or four hours. We then came to a bend of the La Tranche (Thames) and were agreeably surprised to meet twelve or fourteen carioles coming to meet, and conduct the Governor, who, with his suite got into them, and at about four o'clock arrived at Dolsen's, having previously reconnoitred a fork of the River, and examined a mill of a curious construction erecting upon it. The settlement where Dolsen resides is very promising, the land is well adapted for farmers, and there are some respectable inhabitants on both sides of the River; behind it to the South is a range of spacious meadows—Elk are continually seen upon them—and the pools and ponds are full of cray fish.

From Dolsen's we went to the mouth of the Thames in carioles, about twelve miles, and saw the remains of a considerable town of the Chippawas, where, it is reported, a desperate battle was fought between them and the Senecas, and upon which occasion the latter, being totally vanquished, abandoned their dominions to the conquerors. Certain it is, that human bones are scattered in abundance in the vicinity of the ground, and the Indians have a variety of traditions relative to this transaction. Going along the bordage from the Lake St. Clair, we came to the north-east shore of the River Detroit. The Canadian Militia fired a *feu de joie*, and soon afterwards we crossed the river in boats, but were much impeded by the floating ice; we then entered the Garrison of Detroit, which was under arms to receive His Excellency, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, and upon his landing, a royal salute was fired. Detroit is situated in the strait between Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair; the Canadian inhabitants, who are numerous, occupy both sides of the river. Their property in land is divided into three or six acres in front, on which their houses, barns, etc., are built, by forty-five in depth, which constitutes their



farm and apple orchards; this, with a few large windmills dispersed on the bank of the strait, gives an appearance of population and respectability. Many beautiful islands enrich the view.—The country about Detroit is perfectly flat; and we had bad weather the whole time we stayed there, both sleet and snowstorms. Governor Simcoe reviewed the 24th Regiment, and examined the garrison, Fort Lenoult, and the rest of the works. We then went in a calash to the River Rouge, where we saw a compact, well-built sloop, almost ready to be launched. The merchant-vessels are here laid up in ordinary during the winter months, (when the Lakes are not navigable), in the same manner as His Majesty's ships, which are placed under the protection of the guns at the Fort. We went to see the bridge where Pontiac, the Indian Chief, after being unsuccessful in his treacherous attempt to surprise Detroit, made a stand; and where so much slaughter ensued of British troops, that it is distinguished by the name of the Bloody Bridge. The distance between Detroit and Niagara, by the route we came, is about two hundred and seventy miles; the distance is greater by Lake Erie.

23rd.—Early on Saturday morning the Governor left Detroit; and the same firing and ceremonies as on his arrival, took place. We returned by Lake St. Clair, and in the evening reached Dolsen's, a distance of about forty miles.

24th.—The weather was very bad. Lieutenant Smith read prayers to the Governor, his suite, and those of the neighbourhood who attended. We stayed at Dolsen's the whole day.

25th.—It froze extremely hard; by which we were enabled to go on the ice in carioles up the Thames to the high bank, where we first met the carioles when on our way to Detroit. Colonel M'Kee, Mr. Baby, and several of the principal inhabitants, accompanied the Governor thus far;—but here we separated; and each taking his pack or knapsack, on his back, we walked that night to the Moravian village.

26th.—We were detained at the Moravian village till noon, to hear divine service performed by two of the ministers—one speaking extempore from the Bible—the other expressing himself in the Indian language.—To-day we went a little beyond one of our former wigwams, crossing some runs of water, and ravines, and going through lands which abounded with basswood, hickory and ash.

27th.—We continued our journey, and reached the Delaware Village. Some Chiefs, returning from their hunting, were assembled to congratulate the Governor on his return, and brought presents of venison, etc. In the evening they danced—a ceremony they never dispense with when any of the King's officers of rank visit their villages.

28th.—At six we stopped at an old Mississaga hut, upon the

south side of the Thames. After taking some refreshment of salt pork and venison, well cooked by Lieutenant Smith, who superintended that department, we, as usual, sang God save the King, and went to rest.

March 1st.—We set out along the banks of the river; then, ascending a high hill, quitted our former path, and directed our course to the northward. A good deal of snow having fallen, and lying still on the ground, we saw tracks of otter, deer, wolves, and bears, and other animals, many of which being quite fresh, induced the Mohawks to pursue them, but without success. We walked fourteen or fifteen miles, and twice crossed the river, and a few creeks, upon the ice; once we came close to a Chippawa hunting camp, opposite to a fine terrace, on the banks of which we encamped, near a bay. The Governor, and most of the party, wore moccasins, having no snow-shoes; this he had before found necessary in the course of the journey.

2nd.—We struck the Thames at one end of a low flat island enveloped with shrubs and trees; the rapidity and strength of the current were such as to have forced a channel through the main land, being a peninsula, and to have formed the island. We walked over a rich meadow, and at its extremity came to the forks of the river. The Governor wished to examine this situation and its environs; and we therefore remained here all the day. He judged it to be a situation eminently calculated for the metropolis of all Canada. Among many other essentials, it possesses the following advantages: command of territory,—internal situation,—central position,—facility of water communication up and down the Thames into Lakes St. Clair, Erie, Huron and Superior,—navigable for boats to near its source, and for small crafts probably to the Moravian settlement—to the northward by a small portage to the waters flowing into Lake Huron—to the south-east by a carrying place into Lake Ontario and the River St. Lawrence; the soil luxuriantly fertile,—the land rich, and capable of being easily cleared, and soon put into a state of agriculture,—a pinery upon an adjacent high knoll, and other timber on the heights, well calculated for the erection of public buildings,—a climate not inferior to any part of Canada. To these natural advantages an object of great consideration is to be added, that the enormous expenses of the Indian Department would be greatly diminished, if not abolished; the Indians would, in all probability, be induced to become the carriers of their own peltries, and they would find a ready, contiguous, commodious, and equitable mart, honorably advantageous to Government, and the community in general, without their becoming a prey to the monopolizing and unprincipled trader.

The young Indians, who had chased a herd of deer in company with Lieutenant Givens, returned unsuccessful, but brought with them a large porcupine; which was very seasonable, as our provisions were



nearly expended. This animal afforded us a very good repast, and tasted like a pig. The Newfoundland dog attempted to bite the porcupine, but soon got his mouth filled with the barbed quills, which gave him exquisite pain. An Indian undertook to extract them, and with much perseverance plucked them out, one by one, and carefully applied a root or decoction, which speedily healed the wound.

Various figures were delineated on trees at the forks of the River Thames, done with charcoal and vermilion; the most remarkable were the imitations of men with deer's heads.

We saw a fine eagle on the wing, and two or three large birds, perhaps vultures.

3rd.—We were glad to leave our wigwam early this morning, it having rained incessantly the whole night; besides, the hemlock branches on which we slept were wet before they were gathered for our use.—We first ascended the height at least one hundred and twenty feet into a continuation of the pinery already mentioned; quitting that, we came to a beautiful plain with detached clumps of white oak, and open woods; then crossing a creek running into the south branch of the Thames, we entered a thick swampy wood, where we were at a loss to discover any track; but in a few minutes we were released from this dilemma by the Indians, who making a cast, soon descried our old path to Detroit. Descending a hill, and crossing a brook, we came at noon to the encampment we left on the 14th of February, and were agreeably surprised by meeting Captain Brant and a numerous retinue; among them were four of the Indians we had despatched to him when we first altered our course for the forks of the River Thames. Two of the party had just killed a buck and a doe; and one of the Indians—wishing to preserve the meat from the wolves in the night, or to show his activity,—climbed up a small tree of iron-wood, which, being elastic, bent with him till it nearly reached the ground; then hanging the meat upon the tree, it sprung back into its original position. The meat was secure till the morning, when he cut down the tree.

4th.—During this day's march it rained without intermission, and last night it thundered and lightened dreadfully; the brooks and rivulets were swollen considerably, and we were obliged to cross them on small trunks of trees or logs. In the afternoon we passed the hut where we slept on the 12th of February. I noticed very fine beech trees.

5th.—Met Mr. Clarke and the winter express returning from Niagara, and Mr. Jones, the Deputy Surveyor. We again crossed one of the branches of the S. E. fork of the Thames, and halted in a Cypress or Cedar grove, where we were much amused by seeing Brant and the Indians chase a lynx with their dogs and rifle guns, but they did not catch it. Several porcupines were seen.



6th.—This morning we arrived at the Mohawk Village, the Indians having brought horses for the Governor and his suite, to the end of the plains, near the Salt Lick Creek.—It had frozen exceedingly hard last night, and we crossed the Grand River at a different place from that we crossed before, and by a nearer route. In the evening all the Indians assembled and danced their customary dances, the War, Calumet, Buffalo, Feather dances, etc.—Most of His Excellency's suite being equipped and dressed in imitation of the Indians, were adopted as Chiefs.

7th.—This afternoon we came to Wilson's mills on the mountain.

8th.—A very severe and unrelenting snow storm prevented our going further than Beasley's, at Burlington Bay, the head of Lake Ontario.

9th.—Late this evening we arrived at Green's, at the Forty-mile Creek.

10th.—Sunday the Governor arrived at Navy Hall.

## NOTES.

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1793, Feb. 4.—In the Lieutenants Talbot and Givens here named we have the afterwards well known Colonel Talbot, founder of the Talbot settlement, and Colonel Givens subsequently Superintendent of Indian Affairs at York.

Lieut. Smith of the 5th Regiment was subsequently the first Surveyor General of Upper Canada, from whose papers extracts are given in our introduction.

In 1821 a baronetcy was conferred upon him to which, however, he left no heir.

Lieut. Gray was undoubtedly the Solicitor General Gray, who in 1804 perished on Lake Ontario in the schooner *Speedy* along with Judge Cochrane, Sheriff Macdonell and others. For an account of the disaster referred to, see Mr. Read's "Lives of the Judges," p. 76.

The Colonel Butler referred to was the commander of the famous Butler's Rangers in the American Revolutionary War.

Feb. 12.—This refers, no doubt, to an incident in Lord Fitzgerald's journey through Canada, in 1789.

Feb. 18.—Mr. Dolsen was a substantial inhabitant of the locality where the town of Chatham was soon afterwards laid out.

Feb. 25.—Mr. Baby, afterwards the Hon. James Baby, who died at York, Upper Canada, in 1833.

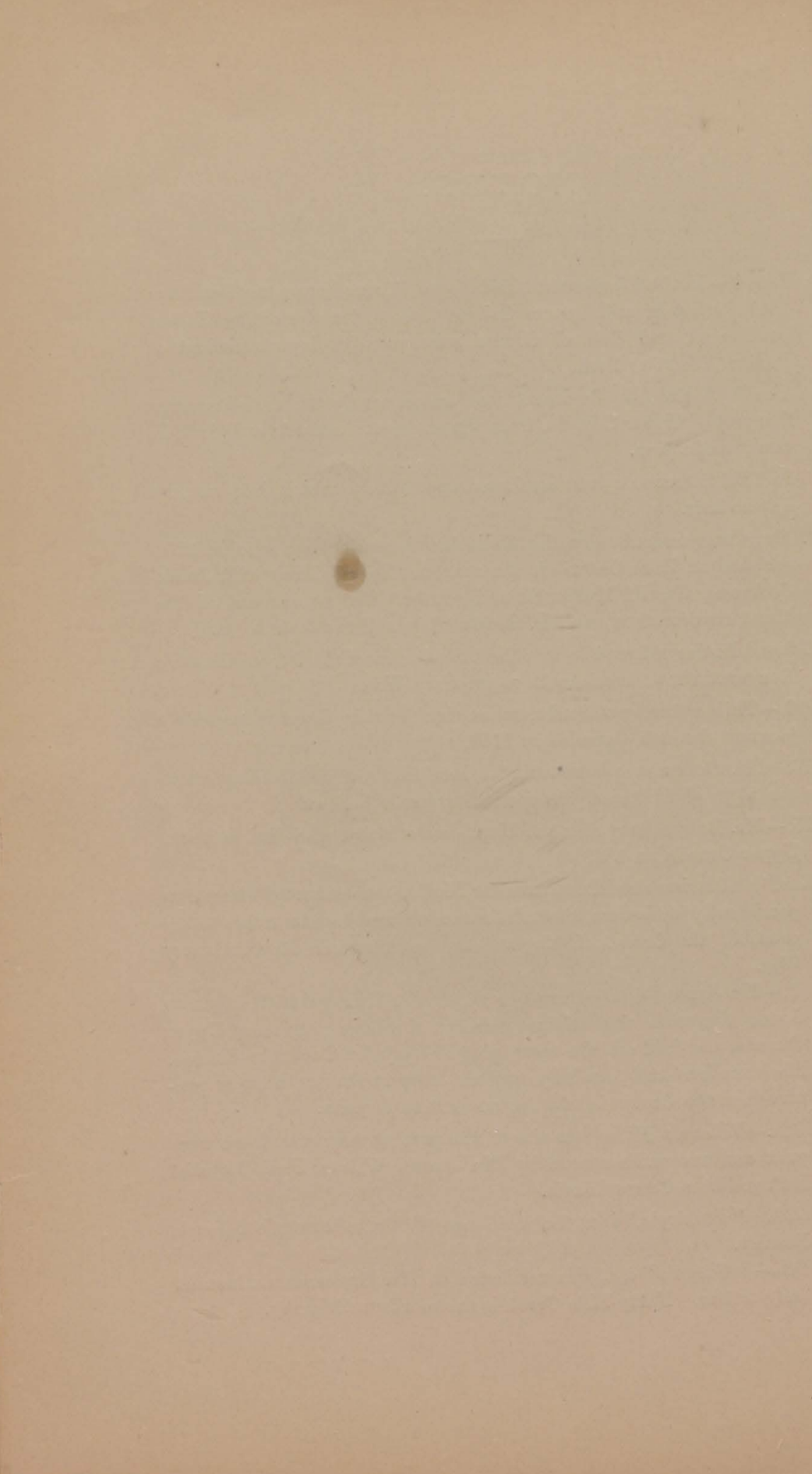
"McKee." This was the Mr. Alexander McKee who exerted himself so persistently to secure the adherence of the Indian tribes to the cause of the Crown of England in the American Revolutionary War.

March 5.—Mr. Jones Deputy-Surveyor : *i. e.*, the distinguished Augustus Jones who made the original surveys of a large portion of Upper Canada, and laid out the town plot of York for Governor Simcoe. His excellent and carefully written note books are happily preserved in the Crown Lands Department at Toronto.

March 7th.—Wilson's Mills—the site of the present Ancaster, these were grist and saw mills owned by Mr. James Wilson, U. E. Loyalist Refugee from Pennsylvania.

March 8th.—"Beasley's," *i. e.*, the residence of Mr., afterwards Colonel, Beasley.

March 9th.—"Green's" *i. e.*, the residence of Mr. Green, an influential early settler. Forty Mile Creek is the modern Grimsby.





## APPENDIX.

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### ACCOUNT OF PIONEERS VISIT TO BRANTFORD, ONTARIO, IN JUNE, 1888.

*(Condensed from Brantford Expositor, of June 22, 1888.)*

The society of pioneers from Toronto and the County of Peel, occupying a special train consisting of fifteen cars, arrived at Brantford, at 1.30 p.m., on Wednesday. Upon their arrival, the party were received by the Mayor, City Clerk Woodyatt, Revd. Canon Mackenzie, Ald. Brown, Ald. Bowlby and others. The Mayor welcomed them with an appropriate address.

A deputation of some fifty of the chiefs, and the warriors of the Six Nations were at the station accompanied by Superintendent Gilkison, Inspector Dingman, and Chief A. G. Smith. They also presented the pioneers with an address.

The President, Rev. Dr. Scadding, replied on behalf of the visitors. His remarks were received with enthusiasm, being repeatedly cheered.

The treasurer, Mr. William H. Doel, then presented the Mayor, as representing the city, with a large photographic group of the pioneers, containing probably two hundred figures, handsomely framed.

The Mayor, Mr. Heyd, acknowledged the compliment in fitting terms; the picture will be hung in the Council Chamber.

This concluded the reception, and the pioneers dispersed for refreshment and to view the points of interest about the city. The Brant Memorial in the Park was an object of general attraction, while many paid a visit to the Mohawk Church, New England Institution, and Brant's Tomb.

Among leading pioneers from Toronto, were : Rev. Dr. Scadding, President ; Wm. H. Doel, Treasurer ; Wm. Rennie, Wm. Lea, Robt. Playter, Secretary ; Hugh Miller, E. M. Morphy, J. Iredale, Wm. Jackes, Capt. E. Snider, Neil C. Love, Thos. Anderson, John Laidlaw, sr., H. R. Corson, Markham. And from Peel County : Eli Crawford, President ; L. Cheney, Secretary ; R. H. Hodgson, Treasurer ; W. McConnell, Geo. Cheney, T. S. Mason, David

Lawrence, J. P. Hutton, Jas. Golding, Major Campbell, Robt. Lowe, Jesse Perry, P. J. Woods, Robt. Colton, R. P. Campbell, (Customs,) and John H. Robertson. The pioneers returned by special train at 5.30 p.m., not having as long a time to spend in the city as they would have liked, owing to delay in their arrival and the somewhat circuitous route by which they came. It is to be regretted that they struck the town the same day as the great International firemen's demonstration, otherwise there would have been better opportunity of viewing the city, and of learning more of historical and general interest to the society.

#### THE MAYOR'S ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

*Rev. H. Scadding, D.D., and the Members of the York Pioneers Society.*

GENTLEMEN,—The citizens of Brantford rejoice to welcome you and your friends to our city.

The friendly relations so long existing between the people of Toronto and those of Brantford are already of the closest and most endearing kind, but we trust your visit to our city to-day will bind us still closer, if that be possible, in the bonds of amity and friendship.

The objects of your society for uniting in friendly relations the natives of and immigrants to the County of York, prior to 1844, and their descendants, and for preserving such historical recollections relating to their early settlement as are worthy of being preserved from oblivion—commend themselves to us as being worthy of all praise, and the large membership of your society convinces us that a great measure of success has attended your efforts.

Brantford from its historical associations and intimate relations with the early settlers of the country, and being in close proximity to the Reserve of the Six Nation Indians, who, a century ago, left their fertile hunting grounds in the United States, like many of your pioneers, to make a home in the Canadian forest, in order that they might live under the flag they had learned to honor and serve, will doubtless be a point of interest to your society.

We hope that ere long Brantford will have its society of pioneers, which would add to the usefulness of such organizations, by collecting and treasuring objects of interest and the early reminiscences of this locality.



We trust that your visit here to-day will not only be an agreeable one, but will also increase your already large store of historical knowledge and enable you to preserve pleasant and enduring recollections of our young and prosperous city.

JAS. WOODYATT,  
*City Clerk.*

C. B. HEYD,  
*Mayor.*

ADDRESS OF THE SIX NATIONS DEPUTATION.

*To the President and Members of the York Pioneers Society.*

GENTLEMEN,—The Six Nation Indians desire to address to your society words of welcome on this occasion of your visit to the City of Brantford, a county town in which their fathers and they in common with their pale faced brethren have been the pioneers.

They believe that one of the objects of the York Pioneer Society is to preserve mementoes connected with the early history of the County of York, but as to whether or not it covers any other ground they were not aware.

And they would take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of the efforts of your society, as well as other kindred societies which have for their object the preservation of those dear old historical landmarks, without which many an interesting event would be lost sight of in the future.

But they would at the same time express the hope that these societies while more particularly interested in certain localities would go still further and make this fair Dominion of Canada their study.

It has rather been unfortunate that the unavoidable clashing of of the Firemen's Demonstration and your visit took place, so that you are as it were only a drop compared with the stream of other visitors. But to the Six Nations you are a drop of oil which comes conspicuously to the top of the water. In conclusion the Six Nation Indians would express the hope that your society may enjoy increasing prosperity and its every effort be crowned with success.

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REPLY OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PIONEERS TO THE ABOVE.

I am sure I express the sincere feeling of all the members of the society which I represent, when I say to you that we are most thank



ful for the friendly welcome to Brantford now given us. We had long looked forward to this occasion, and our pleasant anticipations are being agreeably realized.

Our society, as you already know, exists for the purpose of bringing together in near communion, the first settlers of the old original County of York and their descendants, and perpetuating among them a brotherly sentiment. Also, we exist, as you state, for the purpose of recovering, so far as is practicable, and preserving minute particulars, of general interest concerning the first formation of the cities, towns, villages, hamlets and homesteads that now everywhere flourish within the old county's limits. And we do not see any reason why, as you suggest, a similar society with similar objects in view should not be formed here for the County of Brant, just as, with excellent results, one, as you know, has of late been formed at Brampton for the County of Peel, some of whose members are present here to-day.

The limits of the County of York, I have to remind you, once extended much farther west than they do at present. In an official Proclamation issued in the year 1792, we have it set forth, curiously, if not quite intelligibly, that the West Riding of the County of York bounded on the east by the westernmost line of a tract of land belonging to the Mississaga Indians, running north 45 degrees west of the River La Tranche or Thames. On the south, by Burlington Bay and the Carrying Place leading through the Mohawk village where it intersects the River La Tranche or Thames, and thence up that river to the north-westernmost boundary of a tract of land belonging to the Mississaga Indians. (See D. W. Smith's first Gazetteer of Upper Canada, 1797.) Thus we see that the spot on which we stand is probably not outside the legitimate jurisdiction of our society. Many of us, accordingly, have been in the habit of regarding Brantford and its neighborhood with particular interest, alluded to as it so often is in the early annals of Western Canada, especially in connection with the transfer some hundred years ago and more, as you remark, from the State of New York to these parts, of the bulk of the Mohawk Nation and many individuals belonging to the other Six Nations of the Iroquois Indians.

Moreover, we have a minute record of the first exploration of these parts made in 1793 by Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe in person. The journal of Major Littlehales, who accompanied the Governor during that exploration, should be well known here. Brantford, indeed, is

not mentioned in it, for there was then no Brantford ; but the Mohawk village close by is repeatedly spoken of and its ancient and now most interesting church. Brant is also named again and again. On the 10th of February, 1793, for example, Major Littlehales writes:—“We did not quit the Mohawk village till noon, when we set out with Captain Brant and about twelve Indians.” Thus escorted they arrived after five days march at the Delaware village on the Thames, and we have the entry: “We breakfasted at the Delaware village, having walked on the ice of the La Tranche or Thames five or six miles. We were cordially received by the chiefs of that nation and regaled with eggs and venison. Captain Brant being obliged to return to a Council of the Six Nations, we stayed the whole day.” And then in the notes taken of the return of the expedition, after laboriously exploring the valley of the Thames and all the country, then a wilderness, up to Detroit, on the 3rd of March, 1793, Major Littlehales writes: “Crossing a creek running into the south branch of the Thames we entered a thick swampy wood where we were at a loss to discover any track, but in a few minutes we were released from the dilemma by the Indians, who, making a cast, soon discovered our old path to Detroit. Descending a hill and crossing a brook we came at noon to the encampment we left on the 14th of February, and were agreeably surprised by meeting Captain Brant and a numerous retinue; among them were four of the Indians we had despatched to him when we first altered our course for the forks of the River Thames.”

Then on the 5th of March we meet with Brant's name again “5th,—met Mr. Clarke and the winter express returning from Niagara, and Mr. Jones, 1st Deputy Surveyor. We then crossed one of the branches of the southern fork of the Thames, and halted in a cypress or cedar grove, where we were much amused by seeing Brant and the Indians chase a lynx with their dogs and rifle guns, but they did not catch it. Several porcupines were seen. On the morrow they were again in the neighborhood of the spot where we are now standing. “6th.—This morning we arrived at the Mohawk village, the Indians having brought horses for the Governor and his suite to the end of the plains near Salt Lick Creek.” On the 7th they were at Wilson's Mills “on the mountain.” On the 8th they were at Beasley's at Burlington Bay. On the 9th they were at Green's at the Forty Mile Creek. On the 10th the Governor reaches his home at Navy Hall, Niagara-on-the Lake, as the place is conveniently styled at the present day.



I need not say it is just such items as these that render old records and early documents very pleasant reading to the members of a society like ours, and the incidents thus narrated make classic ground of the places where they occurred. But in addition to such attractions, there is something else to draw us to Brantford at the present day. We all desire, at all events once in our lives, to see the magnificent monument erected here in honor of Brant. We rejoice that the public spirit of Canadians, aided by the munificence of Parliament, has procured for your city so noble a possession. It is among the things that go to make your young men and your young women and all your citizens proud of their home and lovers of their native soil. We rejoice also on account of the effect which such a monument must have on the minds of our aboriginal fellow countrymen. Algonquin and Iroquois must alike be pleased to see the desire to do honor to their race in thus dignifying the memory of a great representative red man.

It is good both for white man and red man that Thayendanegea's name and fame should be continued fresh and green in our midst. Brant did much, as every one can now see, for the elevation and spiritual advancement of his people according to the light and degree of grace given him. Warrior and philanthropist, living and acting in an age and amidst surroundings very different from our own, we must judge of him as we are accustomed to judge of Gideon, let us say, and many another of the Hebrew heroes of old. The abilities and accomplishments of Brant, as brought out to view in his intercourse with the pale-faces, his contemporaries, both here and in the old country, show the innate capabilities of the Indian race. The famous British chief Caractacus, of whom we used to read in our boyhood as holding his own so well among the enlightened and polished Romans, both in Britain and in Rome itself, was possibly no greater a man than Brant. And many, we know, have been the sachems and warchiefs among the aborigines of our northern continent who from time to time have shown themselves possessed of similar fine qualities, as witness the men known as Kings Philip and Hendrick, the chief spoken of as Logan, Shenandoah, Osceola, Pontiac and others. And, based on some experience as an educationist years ago, let me add my own slight testimony to the native gentlemanliness of manner of Indian youths, and their quick intelligence in subjects formerly considered as peculiarly appertaining to the higher education of the young.



As a society specially concerned in the history of the past, we rejoice in the existence of this monument to Brant. And while under its shadow, so to speak, we express the hope, the desire, the prayer to Almighty God, that our red brethren of this region, and of all other regions of the vast Dominion of Canada, will continue to go forward, hand in hand with us, in the march of progress and civilization.

We came round to-day by a circuitous route through Brampton, Guelph and Galt, through a magnificent country vying now with the old country itself in good husbandry and populousness. Seen in all the glory of June, a panorama unrolled itself on the right hand and on the left as we swept along, fitted to rejoice the hearts of men like ourselves, who, so many of us, remember what Canada was when in the rough. But after all, I for one, should perhaps have preferred for the sake of the Association, coming up from Toronto by a route more nearly coinciding with that which Governor Simcoe, Chief Brant, Deputy Surveyor Jones and the rest used to travel, along by Dundas and the old Portage trail, from the head of Lake Ontario to the valley of the Grand River. But this could not be done without a change of railway carriages, which it was desirable to avoid in an excursion.

However, none the less, I am sure, shall we enjoy our inspection of Brantford on this occasion. I thank you again, in the name of our society, for your most kind reception, and congratulate you again and your prosperous city, on the possession in your midst, of such a noble group of sculpture. I hope, as years roll on, many more artistic and architectural memorial objects will be seen scattered over the face of our country, marking its historic spots and commemorating its historic characters. In particular I confidently hope that Toronto will ere long be able to boast of a monumental group equalling, if not surpassing, yours here in Brantford. It will stand, I trust, in front of the new Parliament Buildings now being erected there, and it will be in honor of Lieutenant-Governor, John Graves Simcoe, first founder and organizer of this Province. In four short years more, a century will have elapsed since the commencement of his short but eventful administration.

Every day's general experience goes to prove that the policy and measures of Governor Simcoe were those of a wise, far-sighted statesman; and I think that the really grateful sentiment of the country at large will fully sustain the action of the Legislature when they vote him a statue at public expense.













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